

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/737,047	TOMCHAK ET AL. 
	Examiner J. Allen Shriver	Art Unit 3618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 8/26/2004.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3.  The drawings filed on 16 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
 of the:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>7/30/2004</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol>
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**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I (Claims 1-16) in the reply filed on August 26, 2004 is acknowledged.

***Response to Amendment***

2. Applicant's submittal of a preliminary amendment received on July 28, 2004 has been acknowledged, wherein claims 17-44 were cancelled and claims 1, 7, 10-11 and 16 were amended.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on December 16, 2003 and July 30, 2004 have been considered by the examiner.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 1-16 are allowed over the prior art.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In the Examiner's opinion, a collapsible support for a device having a first, second and third member, the first and third members each being structured to be mounted on the device, the second member being pivotally connected with and pivotable with respect to the first and third members, the second member being engageable with the surface to retain the device in the given position with respect

to the surface with the support is in the extended position, and a lock releasably resisting movement of the at least first leg from at least one of the extended position and the retracted position in a direction toward the other of the extended position and the retracted position was not anticipated by the prior art, nor would it have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in this art. The prior art, specifically Souris ('751) does not disclose wherein the second member is engageable with the surface when the at least first leg is in the extended position as shown in Figure 5. Souris ('751) discloses wherein the first member is engageable with the surface when the first leg is in the extended position as shown in Figure 1. It would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in this art to modify the configuration of the first leg members relative to one another so that the second member engages the ground (surface) when the first leg is in the extended position.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Allen Shriver whose telephone number is (703) 308-1224. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30-6:00.

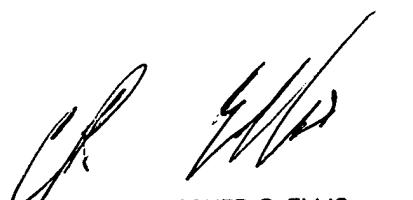
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris P. Ellis can be reached on (703) 305-0168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

J. Allen Shriver  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3618

JAS 9/16/04



CHRISTOPHER P. ELLIS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600